By the King.

A Proclamation for the ſearch and apprehenſion of Iohn Cotton Eſquire.

WHereas Iohn Cotton of Warblington, otherwiſe of Subberton, in the Countie of Southhampton, Eſquire, is by ſundry ſtrong and vehement preſumptions, diſcouered to haue committed matter full of very ſtrange and execrable high Treaſons, againſt Our Perſon and State; And the ſame Iohn Cotton, (as it ſhould appeare by all circumſtances) hath, vpon a guilty conſcience, and ſome priuie intelligence of ſearch intended for him, fled from his houſe and dwelling, and lurketh or wandreth in vnknowne places; Although it ſtandeth not with the courſe of Juſtice to condemne any man vnheard, yet for that the preſumptions and proofes appeare to bee ſo forcible againſt him, as if after this publike notice, he ſhall not forthwith come in, and render himſelfe, Wee ſhall haue iuſt cauſe to conclude him guiltie; We haue thought fit, (beſides Our more ſecret directions) to haue recourſe to the induſtrie and loue of Our people, which neuer failed Us, in any caſe that concerned Our ſafetie or honour, for his bringing forth or apprehenſion.

Wherefore We do charge and command all our Juſtices, Mayors, Sheriffes, Bailiffes, Headboroughs, and Conſtables, and alſo all officers of Our Portes, to doe their beſt and vtmoſt endeuours, to ſearch for, and apprehend the ſaid Iohn Cotton; (Of whom, for the better enforming of thoſe that know not his perſon, Wee haue cauſed a deſcription to be hereunto annexed.) And doe neuertheleſſe require all Our louing Subiects, not onely to bee ayding and aſſiſting to Our ſaid Officers therein, But likewiſe to vſe their owne particular diligence, care and induſtrie, aſwell for the finding out and apprehending of the ſaid Iohn

Cotton, as for the giuing intelligence and aduertisement vnto any of our Iustices or Officers, where he hath beene at any time lately seene or met, or otherwise where there is any likelyhood that he should harbor, repaire or be receiued.

And for the better encouragement of our louing Subiects to doe their duetie in this case (which wee take so much to heart) wee doe hereby declare, signifie, and promise, that whosoeuer shall apprehend and bring into the handes of any Our Officers of Iustice, the person of the said Iohn Cotton liuing, shal haue for his reward the summe of one thousand Crownes.

And on the other side, if any of Our Subiects shall voluntarily receiue, harbour, conuey, fauour or conceale the said Iohn Cotton, wee do signifie vnto them all, that we shall account them as partakers, and abettors of the said Treasons: And if any of Our Officers, or others shall neglect or let passe any opportunitie, occasion, or meanes for the performance, or executing of their duetie in this behalfe, Wee shall proceede against such persons to their condigne punishment with all seueritie according to our Lawes.

Giuen at Our Pallace of Westminster the eleuenth day of Iune, in the eleuenth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God saue the King.

Iohn Cotton is of the age of fourtie eight yeeres, or thereabouts, of a reasonable tall stature, slender of bodie, the haire of his head and beard flaxen, but now inclining to white, well complexioned, with somewhat a long and leane visage.

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